

**BLETCHLEY**  
**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE  
**Medical Officer of Health**

FOR THE YEAR

**1938**



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**To the Chairman and Councillors of the  
Urban District of Bletchley**

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Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting the Annual Report of your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1938, which has been drawn up in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health in Circular 1728.

Outstanding national events in 1938 have made this year one of the most eventful in history. In Bletchley this year has not been uneventful. In March the town played its part in the National Health Campaign and a most successful Health Exhibition was held in the Senior School. The exhibits, lectures, films and demonstrations attracted large crowds which at times even overtaxed the spacious accommodation. The success was undoubtedly due to the enthusiastic support given to the Council by the helpers and members co-opted on the special Sub-Committee dealing with the Exhibition. It is impossible to assess the benefits derived from this campaign, but judging by the comments of members of the general public and the essays of the school children the health propaganda has not fallen on stony ground.

In September, at the time of the crisis, the response of the public to an appeal for volunteers was splendid. The First Aid Section of the Air Raid Precautions was put under the control of the Ministry of Health and once more Bletchley played its part well in the new National Campaign, with the result that the number of First Aid volunteers was in excess of the quota allotted to Bletchley by the Ministry.

Although crises have put most affairs in the background, Public Health legislation continued to make headway and important Acts came into force during the year, including the Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act, 1937.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the help of the various officials of the Council and the willing co-operation of the medical practitioners of the district. I am also gratified with the wholehearted support and encouragement given me by the Chairman and Members of the Council.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

A. MICHAEL CRITCHLEY.

# Urban District of Bletchley

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## ANNUAL REPORT

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Chairman of the Council : Councillor C. D. Flack, J.P.

### Finance and General Purposes Committee :

Chairman : Councillor J. F. Smith, J.P.

Councillors F. A. Bates, H. P. Dimmock, J.P., C. D. Flack, J.P., A. J. Stevens, J.P., and O. Wells, J.P.

### Public Health Committee :

Chairman : Councillor O. Wells, J.P.

Councillors E. J. Boyce, T. R. Coles, C. D. Flack, J.P., S. Maycock and J. F. Smith, J.P.

### Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health :

A. Michael Critchley, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Buckingham and Assistant County Medical Officer for Bucks.

Sanitary Inspector :

A. Bates, M.Inst.M.&Cy.E., A.M.T.P.I., M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.  
 (Certificate R.S.I.&S.I. Joint Board, and Certificate  
 R.S.I. Meat and Food Inspection).

## SECTION A.

## Summary of Statistics

	1938	1937
Area (in acres) ... ..	4,463	4,463
Population (Registrar General's Estimate) ...	7,442	7,381
No. of inhabited houses (end of year) ...	2,360	2,284
Rateable value ... ..	£43,457	£41,273
Rates per £1 ... ..	11/6	11/-
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate (gross)	£181	£172
Births (legitimate):		
Males ... .. 62		
Females ... .. 50	112	135
Births (illegitimate):		
Males ... .. 2		
Females ... .. 1	3	5
Births: Rate for 1,000 population ...	15.4	18.3
Births: Rate per 1,000 pop. Bucks ...	14.7	14.8
Births: Rate per 1,000 pop. England and Wales	15.1	14.9
Still Births:		
Males ... .. 1		
Females ... .. 3	4	2
Deaths:		
Males ... .. 41		
Females ... .. 37	78	90
Deaths per 1,000 population ... ..	10.5	12.2
Deaths per 1,000 population ... .. (Corrected for age & sex distribution)	9.3	10.8
Deaths per 1,000 population Bucks ...	10	11.3
Deaths per 1,000 pop. England & Wales	11.6	12.4
Deaths from puerperal causes ... ..	0	0
Bletchley Maternal Mortality ... ..	0	0
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live births England & Wales	3.08	3.1
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.		
All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	34.8	66.6

# Summary of Statistics (continued)

	1938	1937
Infantile Mortality Rate for Bucks ...	32.2	40.4
Infantile Mortality Rate for England & Wales ...	53	58
Deaths from Measles ... ..	0	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0	0
Principal Causes of Death:		
	M. F. T.	M. F. T.
Influenza ... ..	1 1 2	2 0 2
Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	1 0 1	2 2 4
Other Tuberculosis ... ..	0 0 0	0 0 0
Cancer ... ..	2 10 12	6 9 15
Diabetes ... ..	0 3 3	0 0 0
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ... ..	2 1 3	2 3 5
Heart Disease ... ..	14 9 23	11 9 20
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	2 1 3	3 4 7
Bronchitis ... ..	1 1 2	5 2 7
Pneumonia ... ..	1 1 2	4 1 5
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	3 1 4	0 0 0
Digestive Diseases ... ..	0 0 0	1 3 4
Nephritis ... ..	2 1 3	0 1 1
Puerperal Pyrexia and Fever ...	0 0 0	0 0 0
Congenital Causes ... ..	0 4 4	4 1 5
Senility ... ..	1 1 2	6 2 8
Violence (including Suicide) ...	7 1 8	1 1 2
Other defined diseases ... ..	4 2 6	5 0 5
Total ... ..	41 37 78	52 38 30



The Birth Rate for England and Wales has continued its rise which was noted in 1936, but in Bletchley this rate has dropped to 15.4, but was fourth highest in the County. It is satisfactory to note that the Death Rate for the County as a whole and for this district in particular has fallen again. No deaths from childbirth were recorded in Bletchley, and the Maternal Death Rate for England and Wales has slightly declined. Cancer and Heart Disease continued to head the causes of death in Bletchley. The deaths from violence have risen, and it is terrible that so many of these deaths occur in persons in the prime of life and were due to road accidents. There was one death from anthrax recorded. This occurred in a girl working in a brush factory. Immediately it was learned that there was a case of malignant postule, steps were taken to get in touch with the Home Office and the factory surgeon, and all the employees of the works were examined and the hair disinfected. As a result, no further cases occurred.

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS

No new factories have been started in Bletchley during 1938, but an extension has been made to the clothing factory and gives further employment. The London, Midland and Scottish Railway, brickworks, saw-mills, printing works, brush factories, sugar refinery and horticultural nursery continue to be the main sources of employment for this area.

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

- i. Public Health Staff—see page one of Report.

#### HEALTH SERVICES

- ii. (a) Laboratory Facilities.

The Clinical Research Association (London) and the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene continued to carry out the pathological and chemical work of the urban district in a satisfactory manner.

The following examinations were made :—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli ...	7	45	52
Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli ...	0	4	4
Swabs for Hæmolytic Streptococci, etc. ...	0	0	0
Fæces for Typhoid Bacilli ...	0	6	6
Number of Bacteriological Analyses of Water ...			9
Number of Chemical Analyses of Water ...			6
Number of Chemical Analyses of Sewage ...			15
Blood for Widal tests ...	...	7	7

The number of swabs examined for diphtheria bacilli was a decrease on 1937 owing to the fact that there were not many cases of diphtheria this year.

There was a further increase in the number of faecal investigations as special examinations were made to ensure that no typhoid carrier existed among the staff of the water-works. The Widal tests were also carried out for the same purpose.

(b) Ambulance facilities:

1. Infectious Diseases: The new motor ambulance of the North Bucks Joint Isolation Hospital continued to transport infectious cases in a prompt and effective manner.

2. Non-infectious Cases and Accidents: In September the Bletchley Council purchased an 18 h.p. Austin motor ambulance for the use of the town. This ambulance was fitted and equipped with the latest heating, loading and other devices. The St. John Ambulance and the British Red Cross Society continued to perform their valuable work in connection with the transportation of patients, but the Urban District Council has relieved these organisations from any financial liability in regard to the maintenance of the ambulance. It was decided that for one year the charges to the public for the use of the ambulance should be the same as when the ambulance was owned by the voluntary organisations. At the end of this year's trial the scale of charges will be reviewed.

The old ambulance has been retained for Air Raid Precautions purposes and in addition arrangements have been made to adapt commercial and private cars as ambulances in case of an emergency.

(c) Nursing Facilities:

The nurses employed by the Bletchley and District Nursing Federation continued to carry out domiciliary and maternity nursing in a most satisfactory manner.

(d) Clinics:

**Maternity and Child Welfare**

The voluntary organisation which has run the Infant Welfare Clinic for so many years continued to hold the clinics at the Temperance Hall during the past year. This clinic received financial assistance from the Bucks County Council and was attended by the district nurses and the Medical Officer of Health. During the past four years the attendances of mothers and children have steadily risen and this increase was continued in 1938 as shown by the figures below:—

	Attendances			New Members	
	Mothers	Babies		Mothers	Babies
1935 ... ..	692	691	...	55	59
1936 ... ..	915	909	...	72	73
1937 ... ..	1102	1134	...	79	81
1938 ... ..	1387	1460	...	89	93

This rise has taken place in spite of the difficulties encountered in dealing with large numbers at the Temperance Hall. In December, the last clinic was held at this centre, where for years much good work has been performed by the voluntary helpers and the health staff. In January, 1939, the clinic was transferred to the Bletchley Road Clinic, which has been rented from the Bucks County Council. This new building is a real credit to the town and the county, and the increased facilities will lead to even greater efficiency and no doubt the clinic will be still more utilised and appreciated by the mothers of Bletchley.

#### School Clinics.

There was no proper school clinic in Bletchley, but this deficiency was filled at the beginning of 1939 when the Bletchley Road Clinic was opened. This new clinic includes special rooms for the examination of eye cases.

#### Venereal Diseases

There was no clinic for the diagnosis and treatment of these disorders. Arrangements have been made by the County Council for free consultation and treatment at the Northampton General Hospital, Bedford County Hospital and the Royal Bucks Hospital.

#### (e) Hospitals:

Small Pox: North Bucks Smallpox Hospital, Woughton.

Infectious Disease: North Bucks Joint Isolation Hospital at Grove, near Linslade.

Tuberculosis: Berks and Bucks Joint Sanatorium at Peppard.

Voluntary Hospitals serving this area, but not subsidised by the Council :—

Northampton General Hospital.

Bedford County Hospital.

Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury.

The various London Hospitals.

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### 1.—(i.): Water:

The necessity of a pure water supply and the need of constant supervision and good co-operation between the Water Engineer and the Medical Officer of Health was clearly

demonstrated in the Croydon epidemic. Immediately the facts of this outbreak were published, steps were redoubled in this district to ensure the purity of the water supply. All employees in the water works were subjected to various tests to find out whether they were potential carriers of typhoid or other water-born diseases. In addition, arrangements were made for the routine laboratory examination of water to be carried out at more frequent intervals. Since these steps were taken a memorandum was received from the Ministry of Health recommending that these safeguards should be installed.

During the year the Council have laid a new 9-inch trunk main for a distance of 4,000 yards from its Sandhouse Pumping Station to its Reservoirs at Little Brickhill and this has enabled a much greater quantity of water to be carried with less pumping costs and has allowed for an adequate supply for the estimated population for the next twenty years. New pumping machinery will be installed during the next year and will be available for pumping during the early Summer of 1939, when the Works should be capable of pumping approximately 24,000 gallons per hour.

An agreement has been made with the Bucks County Council for the laying of a water main in Shenley Road for the supply of pure water to farm premises and this work will be carried out in the early part of 1939. The Council lays great importance upon the provision of pure water for modern farm processes and the encouragement thereby of the production of Accredited Milk. This main, which will be of 3-inch diameter, is approximately one mile long.

Extensions of supply mains have been carried out during the year to the extent of approximately 1,000 yards.

The consumption of water for domestic purposes has been equivalent to 24 gallons per person per day. This was a slight increase upon last year.

A recent analysis of water gave the following results :

#### SANDHOUSE WATER SUPPLY.

Chemical Characters :	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon.
Chlorine in Chlorides ... ..	1.80	1.26
Chlorine $\times 1.647$ equals Sodium Chloride	2.96	2.07
Nitrogen as Nitrates ... ..	Nil	Nil
Saline Ammonia ... ..	0.002	0.0014
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37 degrees C. ... ..	0.014	0.009



## REMARKS.

From a consideration of the above data no exception can be taken, on chemical grounds, to the use of this water for domestic purposes.

## Examination for Special Bacteria :

Coliform bacilli .....absent in 100 c.c.

## Result of Examination :

From a consideration of the data, no exception can be taken to the use of this water for domestic purposes, upon bacteriological grounds.

The Council continued to own the Great Brickhill Waterworks, which was used as a standby supply, in addition to supplying the Parish of Great Brickhill.

The following is a result of a recent analysis :—

## GREAT BRICKHILL WATER SUPPLY

	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon.
Chemical Characters :		
Chlorine in Chlorides ... ..	1.70	1.19
Chlorine×1.647 equals Sodium Chloride	2.80	1.96
Nitrogen as Nitrates ... ..	0.65	0.45
Saline Ammonia ... ..	0.001	0.0007
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	0.001	0.0007
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37 degrees C. ... ..	0.012	0.008

## REMARKS.

From a consideration of the above data, no exception can be taken to the use of this water for domestic purposes, upon chemical grounds.

## Examination for Special Bacteria.

Coliform bacilli ..... absent in 100 c.c.

## Result of Examination.

From a consideration of the data, no exception can be taken to the use of this water for domestic purposes, upon bacteriological grounds.

As a result of adverse analyses of water from the Water Eaton well, this supply has been stopped.

## (ii.): Drainage and Sewerage :

Owing to the opening-up of Bletchley Park, a considerable length of new sewerage and drainage has been carried out in connection with this Building Estate.

Work has been carried out at the Far Bletchley Sewage Works for the more efficient treatment of storm water and this has resulted in a considerable improvement in the quality of the final effluent.

There have been no complaints in regard to smells from Sewage Works during the year.

The investigations with regard to the possible reception of a trade effluent to the Simpson Sewerage Works have been continued, but the evidence which has been collected was not sufficient to allow the completion of the Water Eaton Sewerage Scheme.

## 2.—(i.): Rivers and Streams:

There has been no serious flooding during the year, and no complaints in respect of the condition of rivers or streams have been received. In general, the condition of the streams in the urban district did not call for any adverse comment.

## 3.—(i.): Closet Accommodation:

The town is singularly free from any difficulties in closet accommodation. Excepting for a small number of houses in the Parish of Water Eaton, which were taken in under the Review Order and which have not yet been dealt with by the proposed new sewerage scheme, the town is completely on the water carriage system.

## (ii.): Public Cleansing:

Refuse collection was carried out by motor vehicles and the collection was once weekly. The Council have instituted a strict system of control of type and state of repair of bins and the service operated with a minimum of friction. All refuse was burned by complete incineration.

Trade refuse was collected and disposed of at fixed scales.

## (iii.): Sanitary Inspector's Report:

### Inspections Made.

Water .....	90	Housing .....	91	Buildings .....	81
Bakehouses ...	7	Sewerage .....	77	Destructor .....	25
Factories .....	14	Drainage .....	114	Smoke .....	4
Food Premises ...	29	Slaughter Houses ...	38		

Total Inspections ... 541

Houses and Clothing disinfected ... 36

Informal Notices ... .. 91

Statutory Notices ... .. —

### Details of Defects.

Plaster and Ceilings ...	26	Doors ... ..	31
Floors ... ..	25	Windows ... ..	35
Damp Course ... ..	40	Pantry ... ..	6
Stairs ... ..	17	Roof ... ..	20
Spouts ... ..	22	Drains and W.C.s ...	19
Paving ... ..	6	Ashbins ... ..	23

Miscellaneous ... .. 71

## (iv.): Shops:

Inspections have been made of the shops in the district under Shops Act, 1934, and informal notice only has been required to meet the provisions of this Act.

## (v.): Camping Sites:

No camping sites were registered in the area.

## (vi.): Smoke Abatement:

There was one complaint of smoke nuisance from a chimney of one of the brush factories. On investigation, it was found that the nuisance was due to improper stoking and the matter was remedied immediately. The brickworks continued to give off their smoke, but, as was pointed out in last year's Report, this was the inevitable but harmless result of the manufacture of bricks. Investigations were still being carried out with a view to finding a remedy for this nuisance.

## (vii.): Swimming Baths and Pools:

(a) During the year the Council proceeded with its scheme for a covered swimming pool. The pool has been designed with one side to open with folding doors, so as to give some of the amenities of an open pool. When this bath was designed, special attention was paid to the elimination of maintenance costs, which in an ambitious project of this type might otherwise be a severe financial strain. The filtration and purification plant has been designed in accordance with the Ministry of Health's recommendations, being based upon a four-hourly turnover at 250 gallons per square foot per hour. The chloromine process of sterilization will be used and the latest system of continuous filtration will be fitted to ensure uniform purity. The designs have been approved by the National Advisory Council and Grants Committee for Physical Training and Recreation and a grant of £6,000 has been made by this Council towards the cost. An arrangement has been entered with the Education Authority whereby an annual sum will be payable in return for certain swimming facilities. The Ministry of Health Inquiry has been held, and the scheme has been approved in its entirety. Tenders will be advertised and the work of construction will be commenced in the Summer of 1939.

(b) There was one privately-owned swimming pool, but it was not for the use of the general public.

## (viii.): Eradication of Bed Bugs:

There have been no cases of bed bugs or other infestation during the year.

## 4.—Schools :

The reconditioned Bletchley Road Infants, Junior and Senior Schools were opened during the year and were most satisfactory.

The Old Bletchley Church of England School needed a certain amount of improvement. The playground surface was unsatisfactory and the lighting in one classroom was bad. In these days when physical training is being stressed, it is even more essential that cleanliness should be encouraged, but in this School there was only one wash basin for over one hundred children, which was inadequate.

The Woughton and Simpson School continued to be supplied with bucket closets in spite of the fact that the Bletchley sewer was within a short distance. The artificial lighting was not satisfactory and again the remedy in this case, electrical current, was not far off.

## SECTION D.

## HOUSING

## INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

## 1.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	41
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	67
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .....	41
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	67
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	0

## 2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .....	29
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## 3 Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

## (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners .....	—



(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners .....	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	—
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	—
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .....	—
1. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding :	
(a) 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	Nil
2. Number of families dwelling therein .....	Nil
3. Number of persons dwelling therein .....	Nil
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	Nil
(c) 1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	5
2. Number of persons concerned in such cases .....	40
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again been overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .....	—
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report .....	—

At the end of the year 18 new Council Houses were completed. 14 of these were 3-bedroom non-parlour type and were supplied with a hot water system, the Council having adopted the policy of installing such an amenity in all future houses. Two 5-bedroom type and two 4-bedroom type houses have also been erected during the year to deal with the overcrowding existing in the district.

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### (a) Milk Supply:

There are 34 farms registered and 30 retailers of milk.

#### (b) Meat:

	No. Slaughtered.	No. Inspected.	No. Condemned for Tuberculosis.
Cattle.....	538	90	2
Cows.....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Calves.....	51	4	Nil
Sheep & Lambs	2206	139	Nil
Pigs.....	2196	151	1
Totals.....	4991	384	3

Owing to pressure of other duties, especially during the last quarter of the year, as well as the number of slaughter-houses where killing was done at different times, it was impossible to carry out systematic inspection of beasts and carcasses. Proper and thorough inspection of food necessitates the employment of a full-time sanitary inspector and preferably a public abattoir, and until such conditions are fulfilled the soundness of food supplies depends chiefly upon the honesty of the purveyors.

#### (c) Other Foods.

During the year, consignments of damaged sugar from the Port of London were received at the sugar refinery and having been purified were used in the manufacture of alcohol.

It was hoped that the Health Exhibition, with its Health and Cleanliness and other stalls, would have caused an improvement in the handling and protection of food, but unfortunately such customs as the exposing of food to the street dirt and fouling of dogs continued to be observed by the shopkeepers in the district. This country has much to learn in the cleanliness of food from some other countries.

#### (d) Nutrition.

There was no evidence of severe undernourishment amongst the children in the area, although a certain amount of slightly subnormal nutrition was observed, being due to such causes as past or chronic illnesses, mismanagement or lack of means. Authority was given to arrange for the free supply of cod liver oil and malt to the undernourished children when required but the Education Authority had no scheme for the supply of free milk or meals although empowered by law to adopt one.

## SECTION F.

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

#### 1. General:

In last year's report it was mentioned that Measles was made notifiable under the Bletchley Urban (Measles) Legislations 1936. During the first four months of 1938 there was a widespread epidemic of measles. Fortunately there were few serious cases and no deaths, and only one patient was sent to Isolation Hospital. When the Council approached the North Bucks Isolation Hospital Board in the previous year regarding the admission of measles cases the chief objection raised to Bletchley's proposal was that the hospital would be swamped with cases of measles. In view of the fact that there was a widespread epidemic yet only one patient was admitted, these fears were groundless. The policy that has been pursued is that only severe cases which cannot be nursed safely at home should be removed to hospital. The Council adopted a scheme whereby protection was given against Measles. On request, any medical practitioner was supplied with free anti-measles serum. The serum used was an extract of placental sera. Not all the doctors took advantage of this scheme, as the value of serum was a matter of dispute, but it was reported that in some cases it was very useful in modifying the disease and preventing the onset of symptoms in contacts.

Ten cases of diphtheria were notified, most of them occurring in the early part of the year. A striking example of the value of active immunisation against diphtheria was seen in a family in which three of the children developed diphtheria whilst the fourth, who had been protected by immunisation, escaped. The scheme that was adopted last year for the immunisation of school children against diphtheria continued to meet with a good response and a large proportion of the children in the Junior and Infants Schools were protected from this disease. The diphtheria prophylactic employed was T.A.F. and three injections were administered.

Scarlet Fever was almost entirely absent from the district, there being only four cases notified.

A slight outbreak of mumps was reported in the summer months.

There was one notification of acute anterior poliomyelitis. This case of infantile paralysis occurred in an adult man, who was removed to the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases. No source of infection was discovered, and no further cases were reported.

**Table Showing Number of Cases Notified and Numbers Admitted to an Isolation Hospital.**

Disease.	1937.		1938	
	Notified.	Admitted to Hospital	Notified.	Admitted to Hospital
Diphtheria.....	24	24	10	10
Scarlet Fever.....	12	10	4	4
Erysipelas.....	3	1	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia.....	5	—	8	—
Measles.....	—	—	28	1



2. (a) Prevention of Blindness :

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

(b) Tuberculosis :

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

## TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods Years.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ... ..								
1 ... ..								
5 ... ..								
15 ... ..								
25 ... ..								
35 ... ..	1							
45 ... ..					1			
55 ... ..								
65 and upwards ...								1
Totals ... ..	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1



## NATIONAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN

During the year a special effort was made in Bletchley to make the people "Health Conscious" and to encourage them to utilise the various health services which were in existence. These efforts reached their peak in the Health Exhibition which was held in the Senior School at Bletchley Road on March 29th-31st. The Exhibition was attended each morning by parties of school children, and in the afternoon and evenings it was open to the general public. The Exhibition was organised by a committee consisting of representatives of the Urban District Council, the local medical practitioners and various organisations interested in Health. There were numerous stalls on view and among the exhibitors were the Urban District Council, The British Social Hygiene Council, The Dental Board of the United Kingdom, The Health and Cleanliness Council, The National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, The National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare, St. John Ambulance Association, and The National Milk Council, which also ran a Milk Bar.

Major J. P. Whiteley, M.P., officially opened the Exhibition and the chair was taken by different well known people each day, including C. D. Flack, Esq., Chairman of the Bletchley U.D.C., Dr. A. M. D. Coventon. Chairman of the Bucks Division of the British Medical Association, Lady Cottesloe, Sir Leonard West, Chairman of the Bucks C.C., and Mrs. Ridgley (née Miss Ishbel MacDonald). Amongst the speakers were P. B. Tustin, Esq., National Milk Publicity Council, Professor J. A. Nixon, M.D., F.R.C.P., and the local and County Medical Officers of Health. In addition, numerous health films were shown and physical training displays were given by the schools and evening classes, and cooking demonstrations by the school children and Miss M. W. White, of the National Milk Council.

The attendance and reception given to this Health Campaign surpassed all expectations. On several occasions it was necessary to refuse admission owing to the packed hall.

Thanks to the wholehearted support given to the Medical Officer of Health, the expenses of this Exhibition amounted to only about £30.

A. MICHAEL CRITCHLEY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*









